

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Monday, October 10, 1988



Woodworking opening attended by 300

By Richard E. McLean

About 300 local business people and dignitaries attended the official opening Sept. 28 of the new Woodworking Centre of Ontario at Conestoga College's Doon campus.

The centre, which cost about \$6 million, was praised as being a "great achievement for the college, industry and the provincial government," by Waterloo North MPP Herb Epp.

George Sinclair, executive vice-president of the Ontario Furniture Manufacturers Association, told how and why the woodworking centre was created.

Conestoga College President John Tibbits said the college will make a commitment to the wood skills industry to make sure the programs offered meet the requirements of the industry and will everything possible to support wood skills.

He said the centre is a result of co-operation between many different

sectors of society.

Peter Tanaka, acting director of business development for the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Technology, said he believed the key to the success of the centre would be the turning out of state of the art and highly qualified workers.

John Pollock, chairman of the woodworking skills development trust, said he had a mandate to raise \$1 million for the woodworking centre.

Pollock said there have been pledges of \$150,000 in cash and \$650,000 in the reduction of costs for supplies.

"I'm sure that once the industry sees the result of this centre there will be no problems raising the last \$200,000," said Pollock.

All the speakers said they were impressed with the way the industry, the college and the provincial government came together to make the woodworking centre a reality.



Photo by Richard E. McLean/Spoke
A ceremonial planting of a tree is attended by (L-R) OFMA V/P George Sinclair, Doug Kimpel, Ronald White, Peter Landry, Peter Tanaka and MPP Herb Epp.

Conestoga alumni association may finally be formed

By Wendy Coles

Plans for a student alumni association at Conestoga College are definitely in the making, said David Gross, the college's director of marketing and community relations.

Gross said that various factions in the college have been interested in forming an alumni association in the past, but the idea had always been turned down for financial reasons.

There is now an increase in awareness of the need for an alum-

ni association within the senior management levels of the college, Gross said.

President John Tibbits said that there seems to be no question that the college will go ahead with plans to establish an alumni association, but would first like the college operations committee to look over the proposal.

"What must be decided," said Tibbits, "is what is the most cost effective way to establish an association."

The college has established a new

development and alumni unit within the marketing and community relations department and has hired Pauline Hall to act as co-ordinator of development.

Hall was hired in August, after working for three years as an alumni development officer at the University of Waterloo.

She has helped put together a feasibility study that has formed the background for many of the recommendations concerning an alumni association that Gross has presented to the president.

Hall said that she thinks there is a

general trend within colleges that is making alumni associations more important.

"The key is that students are only part of the college for a couple of years, whereas alumni are a part of the college for life," she said.

Gross said he wants to utilize the growing support for alumni associations. He said the college's financial hardship forces it to rely on outside revenue and he thinks graduates can help contribute to fund-raising drives for the college with donations of money, time and expertise.

Gross said an alumni association would also give graduates a sense of belonging, and provide services such as newsletters and the organizing of reunions.

The first step, he said, will be to find out who the alumni are since the college opened in 1967 and to put this information into a computer system.

Gross also plans to set up an ad hoc committee that will include students and graduates who will look at establishing goals, services and membership guidelines for an alumni association.

Report shows small enrolment decline

By Wendy Coles

Enrolment in full-time programs at Conestoga College in 1988 is down only 0.2 per cent from last year, according to a preliminary report prepared by David Gross, vice-president of marketing and community relations.

The survey was submitted to the Conestoga College board of governors at its monthly meeting Sept. 26.

Gross reported that the college has 3,469 students, despite the recent suspension of five technology programs at the Guelph campus.

The survey indicated that enrolment in both technology

programs and health/science programs has declined this year by 11.2 per cent and 2 per cent respectively.

The decline in these programs was offset by an increase in enrolment of 11 per cent in applied arts programs and 2.4 per cent in business programs.

Gross attributed the lack of interest in college technology programs (the chief reason behind the five recent program suspensions) on a poor or almost non-existent community image.

Gross is currently developing a marketing plan for technology programs and has scheduled several recruitment activities for the school year, both on and off campus. Those activities in-



David Gross

clude displays at trade shows, visits to high schools, college tours and exploration workshops.

DSA plans winter carnival trip

By Richard E. McLean

The Doon Student Association (DSA), in co-operation with Adanac Travel of Toronto, is offering a trip to the Quebec Winter Carnival this February.

DSA activities co-ordinator Cheryl Wilson said the package offered is the same idea as the trip offered in 1987.

Students going on the trip will stay at the Hotel Clarendon, "an authentic Quebecois 30's style hotel within the walls of the Old

City in Old Quebec."

The cost varies between \$159 to \$179 per person, depending on how many people share a room.

The trip will be from Feb. 2 to Feb. 5, and the package includes return transportation, two nights accommodation, a schedule of carnival events and Adanac extras.

A deposit of \$75 is due by Nov. 18, with the balance due by Dec. 16.

Wilson said she has more information in the DSA activities office for people interested in the trip.

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Opinion

SPOKE

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Spoke is produced and published by the print-journalism students at Conestoga College. The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the college. Spoke shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Spoke operates from September-April through a grant from the Doon Student Association. Address: Spoke, Conestoga College, 299 Doon Valley Drive, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4. Telephone: (519) 653-5380.



Let kids be kids

By Cathy Zegers

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" Adults insist on browbeating children with this question almost from the moment they take their first steps.

Remember all those wonderful family gatherings -- the ones where the dreaded Aunt Edna, with a moustache thicker than your grandfather's, insisted on giving you a big wet kiss every time she set eyes on you? "So, what do you want to be when you grow up?" That was the first question everyone asked you. What did they expect from you?

At the ripe old age of four, they wanted you to have your whole life planned out.

To avoid further interrogation, you usually gave them such stock answers as, "I want to be a fireman, grandpa," or "I want to be a nurse, auntie." These inane responses always seemed to satisfy them.

How can adults expect kids to know what career path they want to follow even before they understand the concept of growing up.

When you're a kid, you don't realize that you'll ever have to grow up. Kids are concerned with things like He-man, and Barbie.

Remember when you were 14, just starting high school. You heard it again: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

You didn't want to think about a career. When you were 14, you were too worried about the pimple on your nose and getting a date for the prom.

When you finished high school it was worse. By this time you were expected to know what you wanted from life and be on your way to achieving it. You had just finished 13 years of school. You didn't want to prepare yourself for a career. You wanted to go to Europe and find yourself.

"What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Adults should stop pressuring kids with this question and let them enjoy their youth. They'll have to grow up and face the real world soon enough.



"VAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT? HAVEN'T YOU HEARD OF THE BIRD DANCE?"

You tell us: Should the Lord's Prayer be removed from public schools?



"I like the idea of replacing it with a moment of meditation. It allows everybody to practise their own religious beliefs."

Mike Smutniak
Second-year BRT



"Not everyone is religious. Some people have different religions and they shouldn't have to sit through or repeat the Lord's Prayer."

Corey Hurst
First-year mechanical engineering technology



"I think it's wrong. The Lord's Prayer should be kept in as a foundation for children who don't go to church."

Karen McCall
Second-year BRT



"I think it should be kept in the school. It's tradition."

Theresa Chong
First-year accounting

Heads of organizations have an obligation to be visible



By
Antony
Saxon

The chief executive officer of any organization, particularly the head of a school or community college, has an obligation to make himself visible to those he would lead. In our case, that person is Conestoga Col-

lege President John Tibbits.

Chances are, most readers of this column don't know what the president even looks like. Having had an opportunity of meeting him is probably even more remote.

I'm sure most faculty and staff have met him, on an official or unofficial basis, but how many Conestoga-goers have had contact with him unofficially?

Have you ever passed him in the halls of the school and said "hi" to the man?

Has he ever dropped in to your class or office (if you are a teacher) just to see how things are going, (although I doubt many teachers would appreciate the visit)?

I have been attending this college for 13

months (including all summer), the same amount of time he has been president. During that period I have seen him in the main building only once. On that particular day he was leading a forum to ban smoking.

This is not an indictment of John Tibbits. I am told he is an affable, sports-loving man and he has been very cooperative with the Spoke staff. But his apparent isolation, at least as far as the students are concerned, is a prime example of the ivory tower mentality that leaders, particularly non-elected leaders, often have.

Physically and socially, they tend to separate themselves from the people whose respect and goodwill are often essential to

their position.

There are many effective ways for these leaders to prevent alienating themselves from others.

One way at the college would be to hold occasional "meet the president" sessions in the cafeteria at noon hour, where students could voice their concerns and ask him questions.

Such sessions would not only dispel some of the mystique, but would go a long way to improve his image and any communications gap that exists.

Or perhaps he could move his office to the main building, decreasing at least the physical alienation by being around the students more.

Main Stratford campus could get boot because Festival wants building



Photo by Wendy Coles/Spoke

This majestic Stratford campus building may have to be vacated.

By Wendy Coles

One of Conestoga College's Stratford campuses may soon have to relocate.

Conestoga President John Tibbits said he has been told that the Stratford Festival Theatre has asked the provincial government for possession of the building.

For the past 15 years one of Conestoga's Stratford campuses has been located in a building on Water Street, adjacent to the Festival Theatre.

Tibbits said the college leases the building, which he describes as a "real gem," from the provincial government.

He said the Festival wants the building in order to expand its facilities.

The college's lease does not expire until 1992 but the college has little clout with the government since it only leases the building for \$1 a year, Tibbits said.

The college would like to stay in the building, said Tibbits, but he added he has no hard feelings against the government.

"After all, it is a lot easier to move the college out of the building than it would be to move the Festival if they need additional space."

Tibbits said he recently met with officials from the Perth County school board, the Perth-Huron separate school board and the city of Stratford to discuss where the college could relocate.

A date has not been established for the college to evacuate the Water Street building. Tibbits said that will depend on when they find a viable option acceptable to the government and the college. He said the college could remain where it is for a couple of years.

Tibbits said it is proving difficult to find a building that has enough space and parking that will maintain the same upstanding image as the Water Street building does.

Tibbits said the college may have to see what kind of joint venture it can get involved in with either of the school boards or the city of Stratford to build

adequate facilities.

Stratford Mayor Ted Blowes, who also sits on the Festival's board of governors, said the Festival's plans for the Water Street building and the adjoining property are not definite yet. He said the Festival will not tear the building down.

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We reserve the right to edit all letters to meet space requirements. Submissions should be 250 words or less, and may be left in the mailbox by the Spoke box in the cafeteria, dropped off in room 4B20 or mailed to: Spoke, c/o Conestoga College, 299 Doon Valley Drive, Kitchener, Ont. N2G 4M4.

Smoking ban increases litter

By Cathy Zegers

The increase in litter on the grounds at Doon campus is causing a problem, according to Barry Milner, manager of physical resources.

"Litter is always a problem," he said, but the increase is a result of more people going outside for smoke breaks and lunch as a result of the college's smoking ban.

Milner said the college conducting an "ongoing evaluation" of the problem.

Milner said he didn't have a solution, but added that more litter cans were a possibility.

At the moment, college maintenance workers are picking up garbage on a daily basis.

Waste containers, with indenta-

tions on top for cigarette butts, have been placed at every entrance to campus buildings.

John Podmore, director of human resources, said litter is "one of the things we are adapting to. Hopefully, these small things will gradually settle down."

As winter approaches, there are other concerns.

"People won't be as willing to go out for a smoke. Who knows what will happen then," Podmore said.

"We will use whatever resources we need to keep the place tidy," he said. "The litter problem is one more challenge to look after."

Podmore said he cannot see any possible ways to eliminate litter completely.

"We will have to adapt," he said.

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Photo by Cathy Zegers/Spoke

Eleanor Davidson and Fred Davidson help inform.

College raises awareness

By Cathy Zegers

People at Conestoga College need to be more aware of those among them who have special needs, said Barbara Kraler, a counsellor at the college's Doon campus.

The college's special needs committee held a special needs awareness day on Sept. 28. The committee is composed of Kraler and several other people from the college community, including students and nurses.

"It's important to raise the awareness of everyone at the college about the special needs that some students have," Kraler said.

The committee concentrated its awareness campaign into one day with several activities.

"We tried to have something going on in every area of the school," Kraler said.

An information fair was set up inside doors three and four, manned by community agencies which set up displays.

Agencies that participated in the information fair included the

Canadian Diabetes Association, the Canadian Mental Health Association, the Kidney Foundation, the Canadian Epileptic Association, the special needs office at Conestoga College, the Learning Disabilities Association and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

The people representing these groups handed out pamphlets and answered questions.

In the technology wing, K-W Access-Ability held computer demonstrations of the various types of software available to students with special needs.

A film called *The Impossible Takes a Little Longer*, was shown outside the student lounge. It's a Canadian film about the lives of five women with various physical handicaps.

Kraler said showing the video outside the student lounge may not have been the best place, but they hoped it would catch people's attention and they would stop to watch it.

A display was set up in the learn-

ing resource centre with literature on special needs and a play was put on by the Rolling Theatre Company "which brought home a lot of issues through humor," Kraler said.

"People with special needs have a right to pursue an education and they are doing it. It doesn't matter if you are disabled, you still can achieve," she said.

Kraler said she hopes the activities helped to increase awareness.

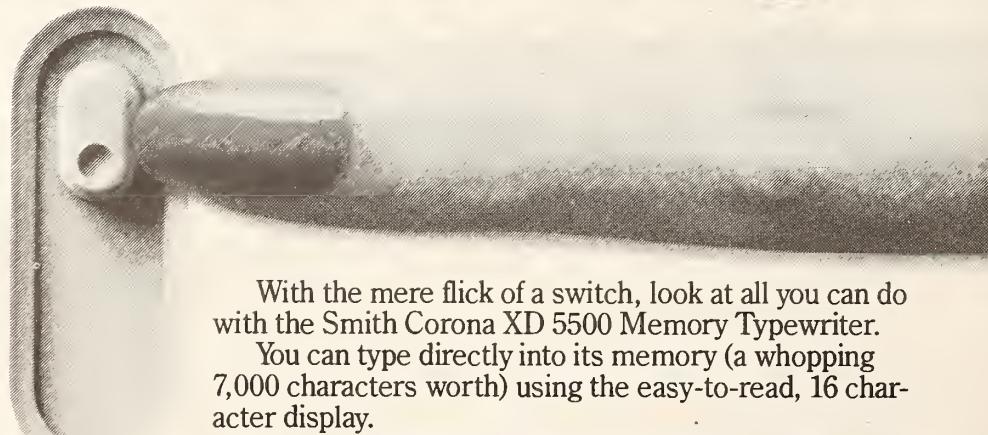
"There seemed to be a good response. A lot of people were stopping and gathering information," she said.

The special needs committee is trying to get people in the college to think about the issues and be more open to those with special needs. They also want to create an open atmosphere for people with special needs so they will feel free to ask for help when necessary.

No future events have been planned, but Kraler would like all five Conestoga campuses to have an awareness day at the same time.

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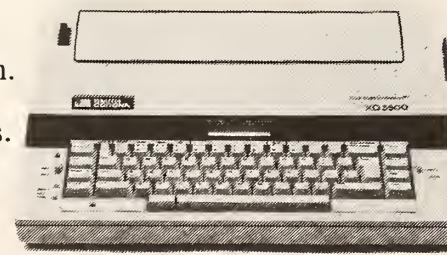
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ECE students watch some not-so-typical puppets

Students in Conestoga's early childhood education (ECE) program watched some not-so-typical puppets on Sept. 26 and 28 at Conestoga's Doon campus.

The hand puppet show, performed by an organization called Kids on the Block, was presented in co-operation with the Independent Living Centre, an organization developed to assist the needs of physically disabled persons.

The hand puppets in the show, manipulated by Diane Weber, Kids on the Block co-ordinator, exhibited various human handicaps, and before the show, the ECE students were told to try and think the way an eight-year-old would while watching the performance.

One of the puppets, called Renaldo Rodriguez, portrays a character blinded as an infant.

He tells the class about his disability, how he gets dressed, how he reads, how he eats and how he gets around with his white cane.

Weber said that through conversations among the puppets, the audience learns the best ways to deal with and socialize with emotionally and physically impaired children.

One of the puppet characters, Mark Riley, had cerebral palsy and used a wheelchair.

Weber told the class about the various types of cerebral palsy, the different effects it causes and about

Mark's affliction in particular.

Mark demonstrates a positive attitude about his disabilities to the audience, she added.

Weber said that the troupe makes appearances in Kitchener-Waterloo area schools to children in Grades 3 to 6 and has been in existence for over 10 years.

"The presentation runs four weeks, and in the fourth week a disabled person comes into the schools and does a follow-up," she said.

The follow-up helps break down fears the children may have of seeing a disabled person rather than a puppet, she said.

Weber said there are 10 Kids on the Block groups across Canada.

The troupe includes: Brenda Dubrowski, an abled-bodied character with a weight problem and low-esteem; Melody James, who is skinny, wears glasses and is called Four-eyes; and Ellen Jane, who has Down's syndrome (mentally handicapped).

All the puppet characters portrayed, with one exception, are between the ages eight and 11.

Christine Wahl, a committee member for Kids on the Block, said that the presentation at ECE provided an overview of what the puppet show is all about.

Wahl, who has had cerebral palsy since birth, said that most people with cerebral palsy have a speech problem or can't communicate at

all without mechanical assistance such as a speech board.

"I'm lucky in that respect," said Wahl.

She said that she doesn't see the puppeteer, but the character in the performance.

"I can think of the puppets as individuals."

Wahl said she felt there was little response from the ECE students to the skit. She tried to get an open discussion going by asking questions of Mark, the puppet with cerebral palsy, but it didn't work, she added.

"The idea behind Kids on the Block is to get people to look past the disability and to get to know the person first," she said.



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***For more information please contact Cheryl Wilson,
DSA activities office***

Entertainment

Unique theatre company plays school

The walls moved at Conestoga's Doon campus on Sept. 28, as approximately 200 people gathered for a play presented by the Rolling Thunder Theatre Company.

Accommodations had to be made for approximately 150 unexpected students, faculty and guests, before the performance in the Marjorie Carroll lecture hall could begin, and the play, written by Larry Brown, director of the company, started 15 minutes late.

The one-hour production depicts the life of two disabled brothers, Jeff and Nick, with cerebral palsy, and their able-bodied neighbor, Gus.

Jeff moves with the aid of a crutch and wheelchair and stays at home listening to music and having a good time with Gus.

During the play he narrates his experiences as a young boy and with his father, who would always say, "you can't do that in your condition," and then add, "He's so brave, he's so young."

Nick, who uses a walking aid, communicates his disapproval with the aid of a spelling board, as he cannot speak.

He does not appreciate his stereo being used or Gus taking food from

the refrigerator while he is at work. As the play progresses, Nick becomes more and more upset with his brother for doing nothing.

To the onlooker it would appear that Jeff could probably work at a job more easily than Nick, yet Jeff says, "When you're disabled, nobody expects you to get a job, so why disappoint them."

At one point Jeff takes the audience back to a time when he asked a girl out for a date. The girl's reply was that she would be busy, no matter when he asked.

The play ends with Nick telling Jeff to go and get a job or move out.

Kirk Griesser, one of the actors, thanked the crowd for attending, calling the turnout "a big change from York."

The company received a poor reception at York University, their last performance.

"The Rolling Thunder Theatre Company, through comedy, has found a way to show people how to look past the disability and see the ability and potential that disabled people have," said Christine Wahl, a graduate of the general arts and science program at Conestoga College.

Susan Johnstone, a nursing

teacher, said the presentation increased her awareness. "Each of us has a special need."

Wahl added that the show was humorous, touching on various themes. "The play captured everything from how institutions are run, to how parents react. A tremendous job."

Several questions were answered by Griesser and fellow actor Jim Crawford before the assembly disbursed.

Griesser told the audience that about 180 performances are scheduled this year, compared to about 120 last year.

He added that the money for the company comes from the provincial government, the Wintario lottery, T-shirt and sweatshirt sales and from performances. He jokingly added the group was "getting \$10,000" for the Conestoga performance.

Barb Kraler, counsellor of special needs at Doon campus, said she was overwhelmed by the response to the Special Needs Awareness Day.

Kraler added that the Rolling Thunder Theatre Company has never had such a good response from an audience at a college or university.



Photo by Maria K. Hooisma/Spoke

Nick (Al Sunislou) and Jeff (Jim Crawford) are confronted by a policeman (Kirk Griesser).

Different method being used to sell tickets to Oktoberfest pub

By Richard E. McLean

A different method is being used by the Doon Student Association (DSA) to sell tickets for the Oktoberfest pub scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 13.

Tickets are being sold daily, but only 200 tickets are being sold per day and sales are limited to four

tickets per person each day.

A ticket can be obtained from the DSA activities office each morning from Phil Olinski, DSA business manager, which guarantees you will get one of the 200 tickets to be sold that day. The ticket obtained from Olinski can then be used later in the day to purchase actual pub

tickets at the DSA activities office.

The Oktoberfest pub will feature Walter Ostanek and the Walter Ostanek band and is being held at the Queensmount area in Kitchener.

Although the pub is a DSA-sponsored event, tickets are being made available to most of Conestoga's campuses as well as the public.

According to Cheryl Wilson, DSA activities co-ordinator, the DSA had 1,400 tickets. Of these, 100 went to the Waterloo campus, 100 to the Guelph campus and 50 to the two main Stratford campuses.

Tickets are being sold on a first come, first serve basis. Students

with tickets will be allowed into the pub until 8 p.m. but after that they may have to wait in line to get in, Wilson said.

Wilson said she didn't think there would be any ticket scalping at the pub because "anyone with tickets for Oktoberfest is going to use them for themselves."

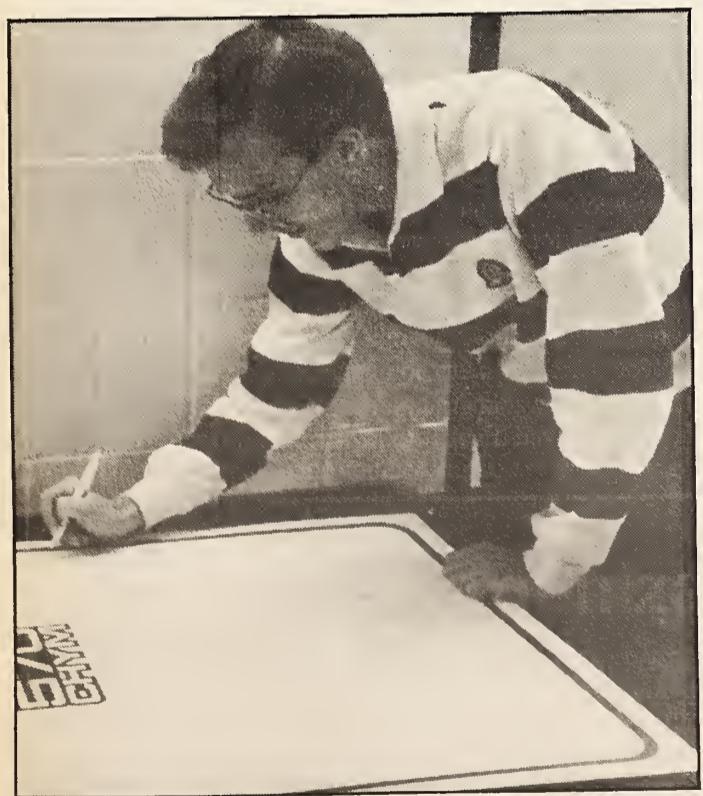


Photo by Antony Saxon/Spoke

Way to go, Lennox!

Mark Dorscht signs a congratulatory card destined for Lennox Lewis. Lewis, a Kitchener resident and former Conestoga student, recently won a gold medal in Seoul

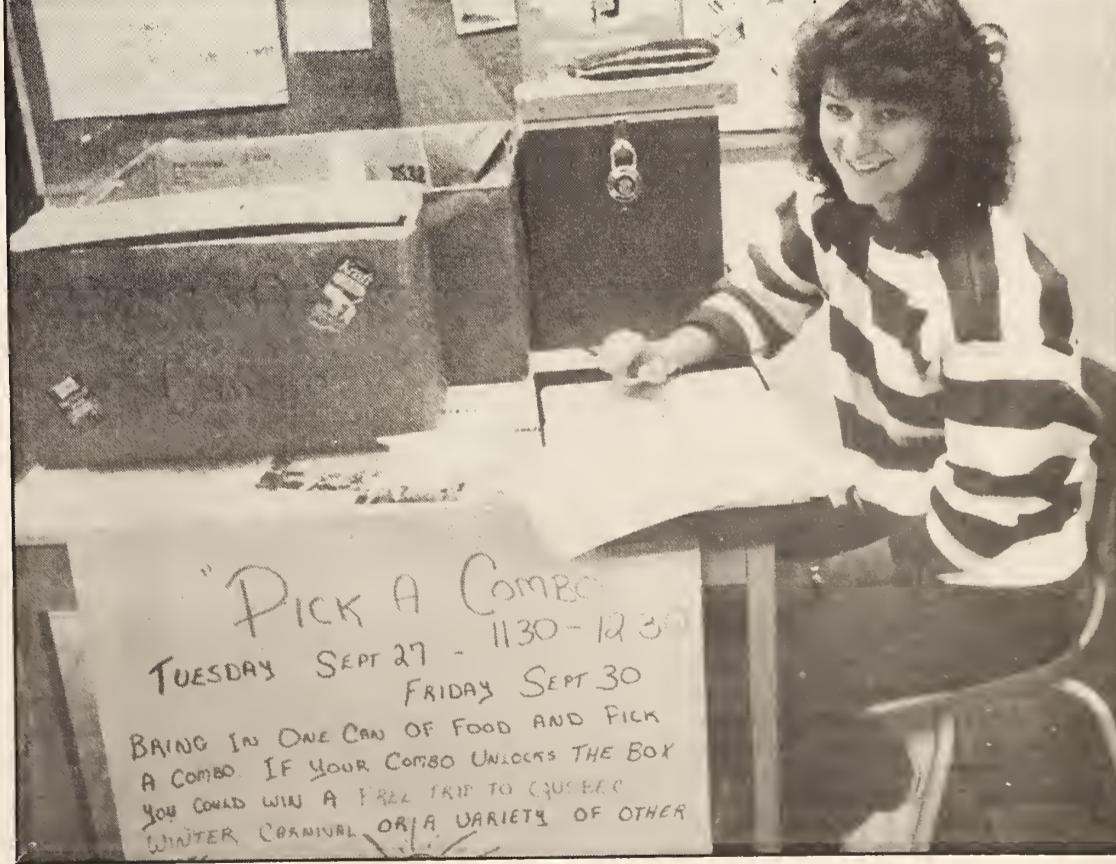


Photo by Hilary Stead/Spoke

A winning combination

DSA Secretary Ellen Officer organized the pick a combo game to help promote the food for thought campaign. The event prompted several donations of food and money and winners received various prizes.

Sports

Soccer team on a roll

By Pam Fraser

Conestoga's soccer Condors flew to a decisive 4-1 victory over the visiting first place Fanshawe Falcons Sept. 29.

Tom Lelacheur opened the scoring with a break through the Falcons' defensive line 10 minutes into the game, tucking the ball into the bottom left corner of the goal.

Fanshawe countered five minutes later, when Dave Stuke threw the ball in from the sideline to Al Smith, who headed the ball into the Condors net to tie the game.

The tie was broken late in the first half, when Conestoga's John Jagas scored a controversial goal on a free kick.

The ball hit the top of the crossbar and fell to the ground inside the goal. Despite heated objections from the Fanshawe bench, the goal was awarded to Jagas, giving Con-

estoga a 2-1 lead. The pace of the game picked up in the second half, with both teams having several scoring chances.

Conestoga took advantage of their chances as rookie right-winger Bill Ferguson scored after a pass from Lelacheur in the middle of the second half. Marcel Desmeules secured the victory with Conestoga's final goal with six minutes remaining in the game. Rob Ceccomancini also scored for the Condors.

This victory evened Conestoga's record at 2-2.

"The team is working well together," said head coach Geoff Johnstone. "If we can beat these guys, we deserve first place."

Regular season games run until Oct. 20, with the Ontario championships Oct. 28 and 29. The Canadian championships are Nov. 11 and 12.

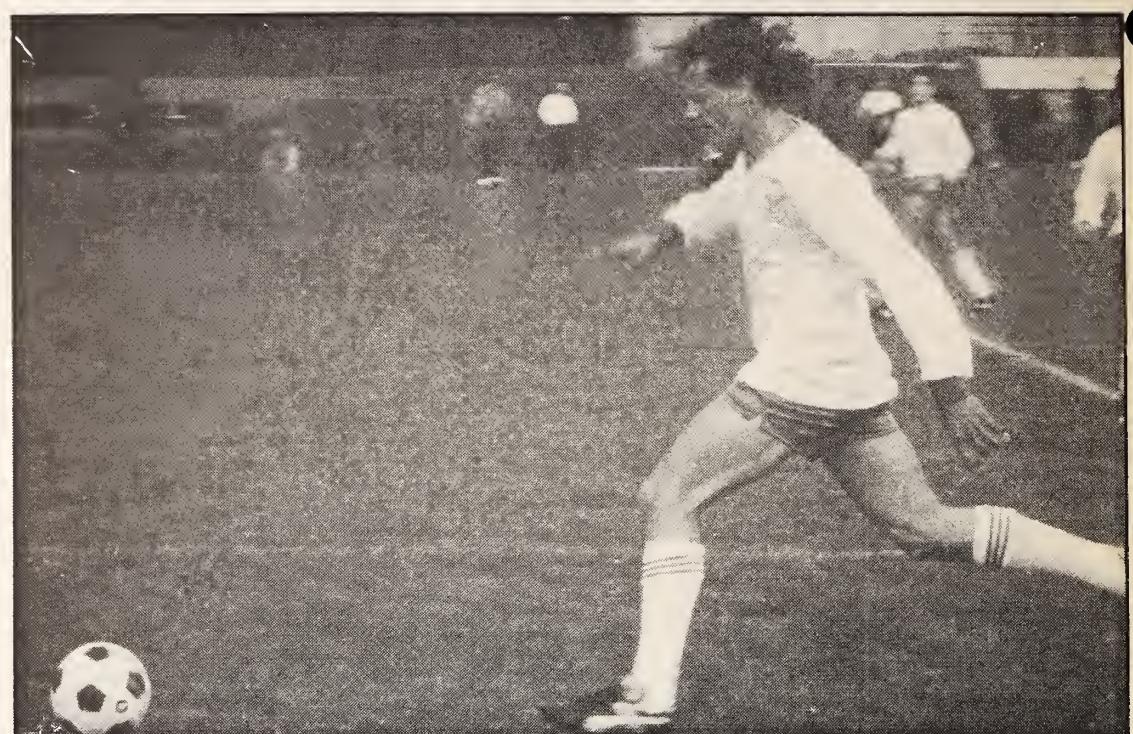


Photo by Pam Fraser/Spoke

Condors go on the attack in the Fanshawe game.

Chiefs win slo-pitch tourney

By Pam Fraser

Talk of a re-match between the two finalists of the first inter-campus slo-pitch challenge were circulating at the close of the Sept. 28 tournament, won by the Chiefs, a team consisting of intramural committee and Doon Student Association (DSA) members.

Twelve teams, comprised of about 200 participants, formed three divisions for the tournament.

Each team played in a pool of four. All teams played round-robin games within their divisions, guaranteeing each team three

games. The top team from each division advanced to the semi-finals and a final game was based on total points.

The semi-final game saw two second-year law and security administration teams (LASA II and the Barhoppers) come face-to-face. LASA II defeated the Barhoppers 10-6. The final game was between LASA II and the Chiefs. The final score was Chiefs 5-LASA II 4.

The final standings of the tournament left the Chiefs in first place, followed by LASA II and the Barhoppers.

Softball team falls to 1-2

The women's softball Condors saw their record slip to 1-2 after losing 5-2 to Seneca College on Sept. 26, despite a strong pitching performance by Sandra Moffatt.

While Moffatt gave up only two hits and struck out eight Seneca batters, the Condors made nine errors in the field.

Four of those errors came in the top of the seventh inning, allowing Seneca to score five unearned runs.

Intramural Co-ed 3-pitch Standings As of Sept 26-30

TEAM	GP	W	T	L	D	PTS
Liquidators	1	1	0	0	0	3
Bus. Chiefs	1	1	0	0	0	3
Team Nurse	1	1	0	0	0	3
The Team	1	0	0	1	0	1
P.B. & Friends	1	0	0	1	0	1
Lara's Lions	1	0	0	1	0	1

Teams get three points for a win, two for a tie, one for a loss and no points for a default.

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Intramural team of the week



The Staff

Front Row (l-r) Ann Eby, Carol Gregory

Back Row: (l-r) Barb Kraler, Jim Drennan, Ric Last, Mark Salmikivi, Jean LeForge, Bob Evans, Susan Hartley

Missing: Bob Carter, the student recruits-Milan, Trevor and Don

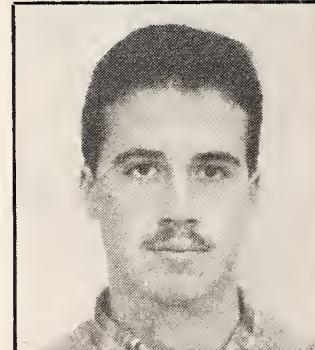
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Athletes of the week

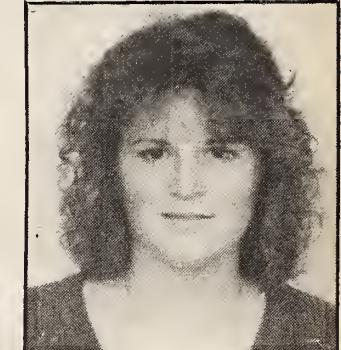


Marcel Desmeules

Marcel Desmeules is this week's male athlete of the week. Desmeules, a member of the soccer Condors, was a standout in two recent Conestoga victories.

He scored the winning goal against Fanshawe and played a strong game against the Sheridan Bruins.

Desmeules is a third-year student in the civil engineering technology program at Doon campus.



Sandra Moffatt

Softball player Sandra Moffatt is this week's female athlete of the week.

Moffatt pitched a superb game against Seneca College on Sept. 26, allowing only two hits and striking out eight Seneca batters.

Moffatt is currently enrolled in the second year of the business administration-accounting program at Doon campus.

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